



# TOPSIDE



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The NDP Newsletter for NOAA Diving Supervisors and Divers

Jan / Feb 2004

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Web Site Address -

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NOAA Diving Center

7600 Sand Point Way NE

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## TRAINING

Requests are still being accepted for the **Diver Refresher** course in March and the **Working Diver / Divemaster** courses in May.

Diver candidates must submit the following forms to Laurie Barber by March 01, 2004 for the Diver Refresher class and April 19, 2004 for the Working Diver / Divemaster Class:

- NOAA Diving Training Request & Authorization,
- **Completed** NOAA Diving Physical, and
- Standardized Equipment Measurement.

All of these forms are available at the following web address: [www.ndc.noaa.gov/forms.html](http://www.ndc.noaa.gov/forms.html). Completed forms can be mailed or faxed to the Diving Center. Please contact Laurie with any questions about class enrollment requirements.

Course schedules through September 2004:

Mar 16 - 19	Diver Refresher	Seattle
May 10 - 28	Working Diver	Seattle
May 24 - 28	Divemaster	Seattle
Sep 13 - Oct 01	Working Diver	Seattle
Sep 27 - Oct 01	Divemaster	Seattle



## T. R. I. TEST KITS

Dive compressor air test kits were mailed the week of January 21, 2004. Compressor testing should be completed ASAP and the kits returned to TRI. Contact Laurie Barber if you have any questions about the testing procedure. 

## PERIODIC MEDICAL TESTING

For those divers that require periodic medical testing, the results were due by January 31. If you have not done so already, please submit the results immediately. 

## NDC STAFF ADDITION

ENS Eric Johnson, NOAA, will be assigned to the NOAA Diving Center effective February 23, 2004 as Operations Manager, replacing LCDR Lemon. Eric's duties will include overseeing diver certifications, diver physicals, the SEP assessment, TOPSIDE, assisting with the day-to-day operations at the Center and diver training courses, and a variety of other tasks. ENS Johnson will be the contact point for the above listed items, as well as any items not listed that divers normally contacted LCDR Lemon. ENS Johnson's most recent experience was on the NOAA Ship OREGON II in Pascagoula, MS. Welcome Aboard, Eric ! 



## WORKING DIVER CLASS

Seventeen diver candidates successfully completed Working Diver training in Key West, Florida on January 31. Congratulations to all new Working Divers for a job well done!!

Instructors, Front Row, L to R: Ian Workman, Steve Urick, David Dinsmore, Bill Gordon, Eric Johnson. Middle Row, L to R: Chris Metzger, Dean Landi, Catalina Martinez, Paul Felts, Scott Van Sant, Joshua Bauman, Lundy Pixton. Back Row, L to R: Keegan Plaskon, Douglas Weaver, Nicholas Forfinski, Mark Van Waes, Luke Spence, Keith Bates, John Holly, John Brusher, Judah Ropiak, Scott Donohue.



## ANNUAL MEDICAL HISTORY

Annual Medical History Report forms (**NOAA Form 56-59**) are due from all NOAA divers age 59 and younger by March 01 of each new calendar year. Forms may be faxed or mailed directly to the NOAA Diving Center, and are available online from the NDC web site or by request from NDC. Divers should note any health changes from their last medical history form submitted to NDC. These forms do not require the signature of a physician nor anyone else besides the diver.

**Failure to submit this form by March 01 will result in the suspension of the diver's NOAA certification.**



## DIVEMASTER CLASS

Congratulations to the eight January Divemaster graduates who successfully completed Divemaster training during the third week of the Working Diver course. Instructors, Front Row, L to R: David Dinsmore, Bill Gordon, Steve Urick. Back row, L to R: Shep Smith, Eric Johnson, Randy Clark, Jeff Kelly, Moews, Ken Wilkinson, Scott Kathey, Chris Caldwell.



## UNIT DIVING INSPECTIONS

Annual dive locker inspections are required by NAO 209-123 (NOAA Dive Regs). Unit Diving Inspection Checklists, used to conduct these inspections, are important to better ensure that unit/ship dive lockers are evaluated with a critical eye with regard to equipment condition and maintenance, organization, resource availability, etc. Completed checklists were due from all units/ships to their LODO/FDO by January 15.

**Units/ships failing to submit dive locker inspections to their LODO/FDO by March 31, 2004 will result in the suspension of diving certifications for all divers in that unit.** Inspection checklists are also available online at the NDC web site. Those ships/units/sub-units who have already performed this inspection and submitted their checklists, THANK YOU.

